

1 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

2 FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

3 Case No. 08-13555 (JMP)

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5 In Re:

6 LEHMAN BROTHERS HOLDINGS, INC., et al.,

7 Debtors.

8 - - - - -x

9 Case No. 08-01420 (JMP) (SIPA)

10 In Re:

11 LEHMAN BROTHERS, INC.,

12 Debtors.

13 - - - - - x

14 United States Bankruptcy Court

15 Southern District of New York, Courtroom 601

16 One Bowling Green

17 New York, New York 10004

18

19 April 18, 2012

20 10:04 AM

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22 B E F O R E:

23 HON. JAMES M. PECK

24 U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

25 ECRO: MATTHEW

1 Final Fee Application of the Examiner and Jenner & Block LLP  
2 for Allowance of Compensation for Services Rendered and  
3 Reimbursement of Expenses for Jenner & Block LLP [ECF No.  
4 27189]

5

6 Second Motion for Order Approving the Trustee's Allocation of  
7 Property [LBI ECF No. 4760]

8

9 Motion of Fidelity National Title Insurance Company to Compel  
10 Compliance with Requirements of Title Insurance Policies [ECF  
11 No. 11513]

12

13 Motion of Giants Stadium LLC for Leave to Conduct Discovery of  
14 the Debtors Pursuant to Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure  
15 2004 [ECF No. 16016]

16

17 Motion of Monti Family Holding Company, Ltd for Leave to  
18 Conduct Rule 2004 Discovery of Debtor Lehman Brothers Holdings,  
19 Inc. and Other Entities [ECF No. 16803]

20

21 Amended Motion of Ironbridge Homes, LLC, et al. for Relief from  
22 the Automatic Stay [ECF No. 23551]

23

24 Motion of Edward J. Agostini, et al. for Relief from the  
25 Automatic Staty [ECF No. 24769]

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Bank of Montreal's Responses and Objections to Subpoena of  
Debtors and Debtors in Possession Pursuant to Rules 2004 and  
9016 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure [ECF No.  
24847]

Motion of Grace Farrelly Pursuant to Sections 105 and 362 for  
Relief from Automatic Stay [ECF No. 25205]

Cardinal Investment Sub I, L.P. and Oak Hill Strategic  
Partners, L.P.'s Motion for Limited Intervention in the  
Contested Matter Concerning the Trustee's Determination of  
Certain Claims of Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. and Certain of  
Its Affiliates [LBI ECF No. 4634]

Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. v. Fontainebleau Resorts, LLC, et  
al. [Adversary Case No. 10-02821] Status Conference

Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. v. Fontainebleau Resorts, LLC, et  
al. [Adversary Case No. 10-02823] Status Conference

Belmont Park Investments Pty Ltd, et al. v. Lehman Brothers  
Special Financing Inc., et al. [Adversary Proceeding No. 12-  
01045] Pre-Trial Conference

Transcribed by: Petra Garthwait

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P R O C E E D I N G S

THE COURT: Be seated. Good morning. Let's proceed.

MR. TROSTLE: Good morning, Your Honor. Patrick Trostle of Jenner & Block for the Examiner Anton Valukas.

I'm here this morning on our Final Fee Application for the Examiner and for Jenner & Block. I'm happy to say that we have resolved all issues with the Fee Committee. The Fee Committee, in fact, filed a statement of no objection on April 11th and no -- no objections were filed. We submitted a form of order to chambers earlier this week and I respectfully ask that our application be granted.

THE COURT: It is granted.

MR. TROSTLE: Great. Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you. Well, that was quick.

MR. KOBAK: I hope we'll be as quick, Your Honor, but I'm not sure --

THE COURT: I don't think you will be.

MR. KOBAK: James Kobak, Hughes Hubbard & Reed, on behalf of the SIPA Trustee.

Your Honor, we're here today with respect to the scheduling for the allocation Motion. As Your Honor knows, Your Honor has reserved a number of dates in early August for a hearing on that Motion. We have proposed a schedule to the other parties, LBIE, LBHI, and the other objectors, looking

1 toward getting everything resolved in time to have a hearing in  
2 those August dates. I'm sorry to say that we've not been able  
3 to reach agreement with them on that schedule. We think it's  
4 reasonable, it is ambitious, but as I said before, this is an  
5 issue that the Trustee very much thinks we need certainty on.  
6 We're over three years into this case. As I understand it,  
7 their schedule essentially would call for a much longer period,  
8 perhaps to the end of this year till early next year. I'll let  
9 them speak to the details, if they wish, but from the Trustee's  
10 standpoint, we see no reason for that. We don't think it's  
11 acceptable. We do think that we need certainty. We've done  
12 everything possible to try to resolve the principle issues that  
13 are impediments to our knowing where we stand and making  
14 distributions either on an interim or a final basis, that  
15 includes moving forward with the schedule in the LIBIE case.  
16 It includes reaching a settlement, I think, we're still waiting  
17 for the documentation, but a settlement with LBHI, those are  
18 two of the other principle outstanding items, so -- our  
19 position, Your Honor, is that we think it's perfectly doable to  
20 go forward on -- in early August. We don't think we'll even  
21 need all five of those dates.

22 We think many of the questions are essentially legal  
23 in nature or mixed questions of law, in fact, we don't think  
24 what we're talking about is the Barclay-type trial with a lot a  
25 "who shot John" about what happened when. It's much more of a

1 matter that what we think professionals can efficiently agree  
2 on.

3 THE COURT: I appreciate what you said, but I gather  
4 not everybody agrees with what you just said.

5 MR. KOBAK: No, they don't, Your Honor. I think Mr.  
6 Wiltenburg may have one or two points to amplify a couple of  
7 details.

8 THE COURT: Okay.

9 MR. KOBAK: Thank you, Your Honor.

10 MR. WILTENBURG: Good morning, Your Honor, David  
11 Wiltenburg, Hughes Hubbard & Reed, for the SIPA Trustee.

12 Your Honor, this is the Trustee's Second Motion  
13 seeking allocation of property of the estate to the fund of  
14 customer property. This Second Motion was filed on December  
15 1st of last year and in the interim since then, we have  
16 reported to the Court on a couple of occasions regarding the  
17 due diligence process that has been going forward involving  
18 professionals on all sides. And, in fact, substantial progress  
19 has been made, and what we're talking about essentially is  
20 continuing a dialogue as we have been doing, but putting in  
21 place procedures, kind of as a fail-safe that will result in a  
22 hearing on beginning on August 6 and, of course, this doesn't  
23 mean that the parties are at loggerheads, that they -- that  
24 they are sure that they are going to disagree it's just that,  
25 in the event we can't reach consensus on the remaining issues,



1 we need that date certain to put the issues before the Court.

2 THE COURT: Let me ask you -- what's probably a  
3 naive question: To the extent that the parties are at  
4 loggerheads with respect to such things as timing and process  
5 and recognizing that the August 6 date has been set, are any of  
6 the issues that are presently standing in the way of consensus,  
7 at least as to schedule, issues that could be addressed with  
8 the aid of a mediator? Or is this just one of those situations  
9 where reasonable people will differ and that difference will  
10 persist regardless of whom I get in the middle of it?

11 MR. WILTENBURG: Your Honor, I think we can identify  
12 two points of disagreement: The first is essentially the view  
13 of other parties that allocation should be the last piece of  
14 the puzzle that falls into place, that is that it should not be  
15 adjudicated until all issues affecting the size of the customer  
16 claims pool have been resolved. And we just disagree  
17 fundamentally with that. This -- the idea that this should be  
18 the very last piece of the puzzle to fall into place, it's an  
19 essential part of the administration of the estate, you know,  
20 fixing the amount of property that will be available on a  
21 priority basis to customers and the Trustee feels strongly that  
22 it needs to be -- it needs to be fixed in order for the estate  
23 to plan and to conduct itself in a logical way.

24 The other disagreement is as to the August date  
25 itself and the feasibility and practicality of keeping that

1 date as a time, as I say, as a fail-safe to put unagreed  
2 (verbatim) issues before the Court, and the characteristics of  
3 this discussion, I think, are not fully appreciated -- we're  
4 not on the same page with other parties about the  
5 characteristics of the exercise. First of all, this is not  
6 adjudication of the rights of any particular party. It's not  
7 an adversary proceeding, it's not that there is going to be  
8 adjudication that affects individual rights.

9 Secondly, it's not, as Mr. Kobak said, it's not the  
10 Barclay's Trial, in fact, it's essentially witnesses who are  
11 financial professionals having the knowledge that lay people  
12 would not have to assemble data and to interpret data and to  
13 explain it to us. And so the divide, you know, between fact  
14 witnesses and expert witnesses and testimony -- it's not a  
15 bright line in this case, in fact, all of the witnesses are  
16 going to be doing an exercise and explaining things to us in a  
17 way that a lay person needs help --

18 THE COURT: You say "explain this to us", are you  
19 talking about explain this to the Court?

20 MR. WILTENBURG: Yes.

21 THE COURT: As you have just described this and  
22 consistent with my earlier comment about a mediator, it occurs  
23 to me, and I'm just throwing this out as a question, not  
24 necessarily even a pointed question, that this maybe a  
25 situation in which the Court may be well-advised to have its

1 own expert, because I'm not at all clear how a lay individual,  
2 and I am one although I have reasonable sophistication in these  
3 matters, is supposed to make an assessment that the parties  
4 themselves are unable to make and they are all armed with their  
5 own experts. You don't have to answer that on the spot, but it  
6 does occur to me that this may be one of those unusual  
7 circumstances where the appointment of an expert for the Court  
8 may turn out to be a useful device because that individual  
9 would be somebody who could provide some presumably totally  
10 neutral and dispassionate advice, would be in a position to  
11 confer presumably with the Court at some level, and would also  
12 be in the position to act as a "honest" broker with respect to  
13 some of the disagreements.

14 MR. WILTENBURG: Your Honor, if I could make a  
15 comment on that based on the experience we've had so far and, I  
16 think I've mentioned before that, on the level, on the kind of  
17 transactional level, the parties have agreed so far and we  
18 expect they will agree they're -- that is they're professionals  
19 -- will look at the body of data and say yes on a transactional  
20 level, this is what happened. And the question before the  
21 Court, we anticipate, will not be so much what happened but  
22 what the legal consequences --

23 THE COURT: I hear what you said but you haven't  
24 answered my question.

25 MR. WILTENBURG: Well, in a way I'm expressing based

1 on what's gone before, the aspiration and expectation that we  
2 will not be experiencing that kind of clash -- battle of  
3 experts, in effect.

4 THE COURT: Well then, what will be before the  
5 Court?

6 MR. WILTENBURG: Well, the legal consequence of what  
7 occurred.

8 THE COURT: Are you saying that there will be what  
9 amounts to an agreement as to a factual record and as to the  
10 financial components thereof?

11 MR. WILTENBURG: I'm not able to tell you today that  
12 that will for sure happen. It will be our hope to get close to  
13 that.

14 THE COURT: All right, well, I just threw out an  
15 idea and it may be that it's something that the parties might  
16 think about. I'm not urging it and I don't have enough of a  
17 under -- I don't have enough of a present understanding of the  
18 nature of what is causing the parties so much agitation at the  
19 moment. I can't tell from your comments and those of your  
20 partner, since you both suggest that this is a matter that  
21 should be handled in August then it's obvious that adversaries  
22 who are looking at the same set of facts completely disagree  
23 with you.

24 MR. WILTENBURG: Yes, Your Honor, that -- at least  
25 for now -- that is the case. The parties have exchanged

1 proposed schedules. We are proposing a schedule that gives all  
2 parties notice of who the witnesses would be, what they would  
3 say, an opportunity to take document and deposition discovery  
4 of those witnesses and those issues and then tee it up for  
5 determination by the Court, if necessary, by August 6th and we  
6 do feel that that is feasible.

7 THE COURT: Okay, I should hear from others because  
8 I need to understand why that's not feasible.

9 MR. GRAULICH: Good morning, Your Honor, Timothy  
10 Graulich of Davis Polk on behalf of the administrators of  
11 Lehman Brothers International Europe and Administration.

12 Your Honor, before -- before I get to a position of  
13 discussing specifically why August is not correct vs. September  
14 or October, I would just like to take a few steps back and put  
15 on the record, what I think is both ours and the chapter 11  
16 Debtors' position that first and foremost, we should not be  
17 talking about scheduling the balance of this Motion at this  
18 time. And, I would like to sort of begin with one of the  
19 comments of Mr. Wiltenburg with respect to -- we should proceed  
20 because the Trustee would like to proceed and after all, I  
21 think the phrase was "no individual rights are being affected,  
22 it's not like this is an adversary proceeding". Sitting at  
23 this table here is North of 70 percent of the allowed customer  
24 claims in this case. That's likely to be true even at the --  
25 it's true now, but it's likely to be true that we're going to

1 be a significant -- the largest two creditors -- customers in  
2 the case at the end of this proceeding as well. And so to the  
3 extent that there is a difficulty with respect to the customer  
4 fund, it's going to fall on customers most importantly, not  
5 necessarily -- not at all frankly, on the Trustee. Just as a  
6 for example, if the Trustee proceeds presently with its  
7 contested Motion and loses, for example, there are certain non-  
8 trivial amounts that are still subject to dispute at this  
9 point, approximately \$3.5 billion. If there is a shortfall in  
10 the customer fund because the Trustee decided that it's in the  
11 Trustee's best view to proceed immediately to a hearing in  
12 August and then fails, if there is a 10 percent shortfall in  
13 the customer fund, my clients and their customers are out \$800  
14 million, because we have an already agreed 8.2 billion customer  
15 claim which we are -- to be sure, we're in litigation about but  
16 not from LIBIE's perspective to make that number smaller, only  
17 to make that number larger.

18 So it is not at all true that this is an academic  
19 exercise that the Trustee should properly be pressing forward  
20 with at this time over the objection of the very customers that  
21 presumable the Trustee is acting in the interest of because we  
22 need to get this moving. The customers are speaking and the  
23 customers don't want to move forward at this point.

24 What we would propose, and just by the way of  
25 background where we are right now is, and, we discussed this a

1 little bit at the last hearing, is that a Motion was filed in  
2 December, in paragraph four of that Motion, why was this being  
3 filed now, paragraph four indicated "to help facilitate an  
4 interim distribution during calendar year 2012", indicated  
5 perhaps earlier than 2012 but let's take as a base line an  
6 interim distribution in 2012. The parties at the table here --  
7 whereupon -- looked at the Motion and said "let's try and get  
8 the largest possible agreed base line basement allocation in  
9 order to facilitate that interim distribution" and we've been  
10 at conceptual agreement with respect to some 13.8 billion now  
11 for quite some time just basically waiting on the Trustee and  
12 this is not a complaint in any sense, it's just how complicated  
13 and how many documents are involved waiting for further  
14 clarification with respect to almost two billion of that. So  
15 there is no conceptual dispute, but we're not here signed off  
16 on that number yet because even after four months of informal  
17 very cooperative, very collaborative process, we don't have all  
18 the documents yet to sign off on that. But we trust and hope  
19 that we'll be able to be in a position of 13.8 in the not so  
20 distant future. What is left here is -- what is left here --  
21 and I referred to this last time as the sort of 80/20 rule --  
22 80 percent conceptual agreement. The 20 percent for which  
23 there is disagreement is considerable. In fact, it's so  
24 considerable that there is a disagreement not -- it's not even  
25 -- we're not even at the level yet where it's obvious that

1       there is a disagreement about specific aspects of the  
2       allocation. We're at a disagreement about the entire process  
3       at this point on that 20 percent and from the -- from LIBIE's  
4       perspective, what that is, well if you filed at this point,  
5       we're not saying defer allocation finally the very last thing  
6       in the case. It's just that the predicate for filing the  
7       Motion when it was filed and trying to progress it the way it's  
8       been progressed, at least according to the Motion was to  
9       facilitate an interim distribution. There is a significant --  
10      there will be a significant -- pot of property for distribution  
11      to creditors so we've asked the question "why now?" because, to  
12      a certain extent, the folks at this table are scratching their  
13      hair, why now, why August, what is -- so talismanic about  
14      August that we need to proceed in August and, maybe it has  
15      something to do with the interim distribution but it's still --  
16      that's not what we're necessarily hearing.

17               Previously, we -- at the last hearing when we  
18      questioned whether or not it was appropriate to proceed via  
19      term we believe counsel indicated that, well, we really need  
20      that extra \$3.5 or \$3.4 billion of property in order to  
21      facilitate an interim distribution, because (1) there was  
22      hundreds, if not thousands of CUSIPs involved in the interim  
23      distribution. I thought from those comments that the  
24      suggestion was is that many of those CUSIPS were in the assets  
25      that we were looking to defer and that would create a problem



1 for an interim distribution presumably, if the Trustee is  
2 thinking about making an interim distribution in kind. Upon  
3 further clarification from the Trustee, it appears that the  
4 assets that are in the sort of disputed category, are entirely  
5 or almost entirely cash, so if there is a complication, and I  
6 don't doubt that there is, this is probably going to be an  
7 extraordinarily complicated undertaking for the Trustee to make  
8 an interim distribution, but I don't believe it's made any more  
9 complicated because there is \$3.4 billion worth of cash not in  
10 the pot right now.

11 Secondly, there was a suggestion more recently that,  
12 well, you know, the distribution is going to be very small  
13 without this 3.4. Doing some, you know, math -- you know,  
14 back-of-the-envelope math, it's hard to see that considering  
15 the fact that there is already of this 13.8 billion to be  
16 agreed that equals or exceeds the amount of allowed customer  
17 claims in the whole case and the LIBIE 8.2, 8.3 wouldn't even  
18 participate in this interim distribution on account of the fact  
19 that our claims are under dispute. So really, I think, the  
20 guiding issue with respect to the quantum of an interim  
21 distribution, really isn't even the size of the -- the customer  
22 pool above 13.8 really at all, it's the size of the reserves  
23 that could affect that and obviously, we looked at that, one of  
24 the largest reserves in the case would need to be for LIBIE,  
25 and we've made an offer to the Trustee, why don't we have a

1 bilateral discussion about reserves, about our own reserves so  
2 we can potentially facilitate an interim distribution in your  
3 case. We would love for those -- discussions to be reciprocal,  
4 because to a certain extent, while there is differences between  
5 the UK proceeding and the U.S. proceeding, we are a little bit  
6 mirror images of each other. They want to make an interim  
7 distribution this year, we want to make an interim distribution  
8 this year. What you would need to resolve -- reserve for LIBIE  
9 can affect the quantum of that distribution, what LIBIE needs  
10 to resolve for LBI in London can affect what that distribution  
11 would look like and so, there are certainly ways of helping to  
12 improve the distribution here and we're prepared to have those  
13 discussions with the Trustee, because what we really want to  
14 avoid is having, particularly in August, but frankly I think  
15 it's from our perspective -- this is not a question of should  
16 it be in August or should it be in September or should it be in  
17 October, it's a question of should we have this hearing at all,  
18 because right now, we've had an extraordinarily collaborative  
19 and productive process. We think that ought to continue,  
20 because if you stop that process too early, you're going to  
21 force people to fight where there may not be a fight. Nobody  
22 on this side of the table has told the Trustee that there is  
23 actually an issue that we're convinced is going to be the  
24 subject of an objection; however, if you say arbitrarily, we  
25 need to have your final answer by August before there is more

1 clarity in the size of the customer pool, you may well be  
2 encouraging people to object when they otherwise wouldn't and -  
3 - that's my -- from my client's principal concern here is -- is  
4 that if this earlier than necessary, we would submit, process  
5 induces objections that perhaps are meritorious, it's not the  
6 Trustee that loses on that, although the Trustee would be, you  
7 know, the person bringing the litigation, it would be the  
8 customers that could lose on that and the customers don't want  
9 to see this proceed.

10 The customers believe, or at least LIBIE and LBHI  
11 believe, that we should continue this process, perhaps schedule  
12 another status conference before Your Honor in a couple of  
13 months to see if we've made some progress, once we can pivot  
14 off of the 13.8 to focus on the balance, and to allow  
15 principally LIBIE and LBI, to talk reciprocally about the size  
16 of an appropriate reserve here, because frankly, if the goal  
17 here is to make an interim distribution, having a hearing  
18 scheduled for later is almost more risk to an interim  
19 distribution than right now.

20 Right now, the hope and expectation is, is you can  
21 have an order, an interim order, for 13.8 that would be  
22 basically able to be entered on consent with the ability to --  
23 and set that as a floor, if there is going to be litigation,  
24 there is the risk of loss, there is the risk of appeal, there  
25 is a risk of delay because we do honestly believe that August

1 is unreasonably short and so, you're really putting at risk the  
2 interim distribution by trying to make it the perfect interim  
3 distribution.

4 And so, for all those reasons we would ask, not that  
5 we have a conversation today about August versus September, but  
6 really whether or not this should be proceeding at all. We can  
7 come back in June or July, continue this process that, I think,  
8 all parties have -- are on the same page -- it has been a very  
9 productive process and I would report to Your Honor if we've  
10 made some progress and if people think at that point it's  
11 appropriate to try and schedule something, then so be it, but  
12 right now the idea of setting aside a week in August when the  
13 parties can't even discuss what the -- what even -- it's not  
14 even -- we're not even at a dispute yet about the bona fides of  
15 the Motion, we're in a dispute about how to even proceed from  
16 here and one last point, Your Honor, is that it's not even  
17 clear that -- what we would even be litigating about, because  
18 we understand that the Trustee is preparing to supplement this  
19 Motion and change the basis for, or at least change the manner  
20 in which the business mix test, which is one of the two  
21 principal area of dispute legally, would be applied, so we  
22 don't even know how the Trustee would be attempting to apply  
23 that test so the idea that we would be talking today about  
24 trying to set a hearing or set aside dates, to LIBIE, seems  
25 very premature.

1 THE COURT: All right. Thank you for that. I don't  
2 know if others wish to add anything to what has just been said.

3 MR. KRASNOW: Your Honor, Richard Krasnow, Weil  
4 Gotshal Manges, on behalf of the Debtors.

5 I think, the way Mr. Graulich articulated it, it's  
6 two issues and the first is whether or not it would be  
7 appropriate to defer what we hope will be the remaining issues  
8 after we've been able to complete all of the requisite due  
9 diligence of the 13.8, and we're not just there quite yet on  
10 the 13.8, although we are there on most of it, is the first  
11 issue and that is, should this just be deferred? And then the  
12 second issue is, if it's not going to be deferred, is August  
13 appropriate? And, I think, certainly as to the first issue, we  
14 concur with what Mr. Graulich has said. We think it would be a  
15 lot easier for the parties to evaluate what their position will  
16 be on the remaining issues, once there has been more clarity on  
17 the theories behind those issues. When there is a better  
18 consensus as to what the customer claim is, it's a lot easier  
19 to evaluate what position one is going to take on customer  
20 property issues, when one does it in a non-abstract way and  
21 unfortunately, because of primarily, although not completely,  
22 but primarily the remaining disputes that exist with respect to  
23 the LIBIE claims, because we do envision that we will be before  
24 the Court in the not too distant future with respect to the  
25 settlement in principle between ourselves and the Debtor, that

1 until there is more clarity on that, this is somewhat of an  
2 academic exercise.

3 And, so I think, that's the first issue and rather  
4 than addressing our issues unless the Court wants me to about,  
5 if we're going to go forward, is August appropriate, I think --  
6 which we don't think it is -- and at the last hearing while  
7 August was set as date, kind of in pencil, Your Honor may  
8 recall that at that time, I didn't think that was realistic and  
9 I continue to be of that view and I can get into details on  
10 that, if Your Honor wants me to at this point.

11 THE COURT: I don't think there is a need to get  
12 into it again, but if there is something new you want to add,  
13 that's fine.

14 MR. KRASNOW: I -- The only point I would make, Your  
15 Honor, is that it's taken us four months with respect to a  
16 category of assets as to which we have conceptually said "gee,  
17 by category, we should be there" and there has been absolute  
18 cooperation and we're there for the most of it, but we're still  
19 not there on the 13.8, and there has been no focus whatsoever  
20 by any of the parties on the remaining issues. And to suggest  
21 that we could complete everything that would need to be done  
22 for a trial in early August, if there is going to be -- if  
23 there isn't going to be a general deferral -- there is no  
24 resemblance in our view to reality and we've proffered  
25 something to the Trustee's counsel, a proposal. We have

1 indicated in that regard that we are more than willing to  
2 discuss the proposed dates. They have indicated to us that  
3 they thought that our proposal would result in a trial in 2013,  
4 that was not the objective, but the speed with which the  
5 discovery could proceed in terms of our proposal was to a  
6 certain extent premised on how long it would take for documents  
7 to be produced because, while I agree with Mr. Wiltenburg that  
8 we would certainly endeavor to continue the kind of informal  
9 process that we have been undertaking with respect to the 13.8,  
10 if there is going to be a trial, you got to overlay that with a  
11 formal process to prepare for a trial and -- we're just not  
12 there yet - and again, if Your Honor wants to go into the  
13 details on what our proposal vs. their proposal, I'm happy to  
14 defer to --

15 THE COURT: I don't think I --

16 MR. KRASNOW: Mr. Levine in that regard --

17 THE COURT: I don't think there is any need for  
18 that, although there may be a need for a chambers' conference.

19 MR. KRASNOW: That -- there was a discussion amongst  
20 the parties about -- that approach -- and, Your Honor, to  
21 answer a question you asked of Mr. Wiltenburg about an expert  
22 for the Court, it is premature -- I don't think I could say  
23 "no", I think that while I wouldn't lose the Barclay's trial as  
24 a template and --

25 THE COURT: I wouldn't use that as a template for

1 anything.

2 MR. KRASNOW: I don't think this is anything like  
3 that but to suggest today that this is going to be simple and  
4 there really will be no factual issues, significant factual  
5 issues that may be in dispute, might not, if we could look at  
6 this, as I said, in the context of, you know, we're the  
7 costumer claims, and compare that, but if we -- if we're not  
8 going to defer it, to say that there isn't going to be  
9 significant factual dispute when we haven't commenced formal or  
10 informal discovery on some of these issues, is again, it's a  
11 little premature, but there may be an advantage to the Court,  
12 where there to be a court-appointed expert in that regard and I  
13 think certain -- we, on behalf of the Debtors, will be prepared  
14 to discuss that further with the Trustee, because it might help  
15 facilitate a trial, if there is a trial on this and, Your Honor  
16 again, it may well be that, as we get involved in both a formal  
17 and an informal process here, once we have a better  
18 understanding of the facts, we may well stand up before the  
19 Court and say "we don't have an issue" or "we've narrowed the  
20 issues substantially" or "we've collectively come up with a  
21 different number that we think makes sense" so, there are a  
22 whole bunch of alternatives here, none of which in our view are  
23 achievable in the context of an early August trial.

24 Thank you, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Etkin?



1 MR. ETKIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: I just want to be clear that it's  
3 permissible for you to be speaking to me at this point.

4 MR. ETKIN: It is.

5 THE COURT: Okay.

6 MR. ETKIN: Thank you, Your Honor. I don't want to  
7 stand in the way of a chambers' conference, but I just -- the  
8 record is a little incomplete -- for the record, Michael Etkin,  
9 Lowenstein Sandler, on behalf of the various Liberty View  
10 funds.

11 We are, I believe, we are, Your Honor, one of the  
12 parties identified in the Agenda that -- where our -- our  
13 objection deadline has been extended and we've -- haven't been  
14 lying in the weeds, we've been discussing things with the  
15 Trustee's office. I just want to make it clear that the  
16 Trustee has not shared any draft proposals with us, although we  
17 twice requested being included in those discussions, those  
18 requests have fallen on deaf ears, so to the extent that there  
19 have been discussions among the parties, I think the record  
20 should be clear as to who those parties are, it's not everyone  
21 who has either spoken to the Trustee or filed objections in  
22 connection with the Motion, perhaps the parties simply includes  
23 the Trustee, LIBIE, and the Chapter 11 estates. You know, I  
24 don't know what the game plan is on the Trustee's part, maybe  
25 if the Trustee believed he gained consensus with those parties,

1 then the balance of customers whether disputed or not who have  
2 weighed in would be standing in front of the 60 mile/hour  
3 train, having the necessity of facing consensus between the  
4 various 600 pound gorillas in the case, but we have not --  
5 there has been no proposal shared with us. There have been no  
6 discussions with us concerning a proposal despite our being --  
7 despite our asking for that and, just quickly, Your Honor, in  
8 hearing Mr. Graulich's presentation, from our perspective, it  
9 does make conceptual sense to us, given the issues or  
10 potentially, lack of issues in the case and we are a large  
11 customer claimant, albeit disputed at this stage, but we see --  
12 we see the wisdom in the approach that Mr. Graulich outlined,  
13 but in terms of commenting on a proposal or a scheduling order,  
14 we have nothing to comment on at this stage.

15 THE COURT: Okay. Is there anyone else who wants to  
16 say anything?

17 This is -- Mr. Kobak, do you have any thoughts?

18 MR. KOBAK: Yes, Your Honor, I just wanted to say a  
19 couple of things.

20 We don't see this as an academic exercise in any  
21 sense. In addition to the objectors, there are approximately a  
22 thousand claimants who do have an interest and are achieving  
23 certainty, knowing what assets are in the customer pool, both  
24 for interim distributions and for permanent distributions, when  
25 we're in a position to make that. I don't think we can just

1 keep kicking this can, this issue, down the road. I think, one  
2 reason that we've been able to make progress on getting near to  
3 agreeing on the 13.8 is because we have a Motion pending and  
4 whether August is the date or September is the date, I don't  
5 think is really the question, but I do think we need a con --  
6 certain to get this Motion on the calendar, to get as many  
7 issues resolved as possible. I don't see why having it in a  
8 somewhat litigation mode, which in a sense it's always been in  
9 since it is a contested matter, doesn't mean that we can't  
10 continue to have the kind of constructive dialogue where it's  
11 appropriate that we have been having with the claimants.

12 I want to say about LIBIE that I don't know how long  
13 it's going to take their resolve -- to resolve their claims.  
14 Most of the other claims that are not affiliate claims have now  
15 been resolved or are in the process of being resolved in this  
16 case. LIBIE's claim -- they talk about being \$8.2 or \$8.3  
17 billion -- we all use that figure but it's important to note  
18 that that was conditionally allowed and the claim could be  
19 lower than that as well as higher, I just want to say that for  
20 the record. It will clearly be a very substantial claim, but  
21 in any event, I -- we need a date certain -- I think, to put  
22 this Motion on. I think that's the way the parties are going  
23 to make progress. As to this suggestion about an independent -  
24 - a court-appointed expert, frankly, that's not something we've  
25 thought of before today so we'll certainly take it under

1 consideration, talk to the other parties, talk to SIPC about  
2 it, we just had not focused on that and it might well be a very  
3 constructive suggestion, if -- if we're at a point where we  
4 need it.

5 Thank you, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Something more?

7 MR. GRAULICH: Your Honor, 30 -- just 30 seconds,  
8 Your Honor?

9 THE COURT: Sure.

10 MR. GRAULICH: I just want to respectfully take  
11 issue with just one thing Mr. Kobak just said, which is that,  
12 perhaps it's been the fact that there has been a Motion pending  
13 that is, you know, brought the people -- the parties --  
14 together and that perhaps, setting a deadline will help us get  
15 together faster. I think it's actually quite the opposite. It  
16 was the fact that we were able to work together cooperatively  
17 at -- at a pace that was appropriate to the magnitude of the  
18 dispute and that was appropriate based upon everybody's experts  
19 to -- and there's been a -- there has been a lot of work,  
20 despite the fact that there hasn't been a single bit of formal  
21 discovery -- a lot of work between lawyers, professionals, just  
22 the professionals speaking to try and work cooperatively to  
23 this, if particularly, if we're going to end up with a date  
24 that, I think, is too close, I think, even though you can  
25 always use the phone and the door is always open, it's going to

1       revert almost immediately to a litigation posture because, for  
2       example, if we were to ask for a document now and there is a  
3       dispute about whether or not we're entitled to that document,  
4       we know that we'll have a informal process to speak with  
5       counsel, maybe they can convince me that I don't need the  
6       document, maybe they have a different document that would be  
7       just as helpful and based upon that give-and-take, we don't  
8       have any disputes. Frankly, we've been -- LIBIE and the  
9       Trustee -- have been discovering with respect to LIBIE's claim  
10      for months now, many, many months. And, we haven't come to  
11      document Your Honor's view with respect to any discovery  
12      disputes, not because their hasn't been periodic differences of  
13      opinion --

14               THE COURT:    You're always welcome, you know --

15               MR. GRAULICH:  -- but because the schedule has  
16      enough, given the joints, such that, you know, if we propound a  
17      particular request or a particular request is propounded upon  
18      us and there is a dispute, there is meet-and-confer process,  
19      there is time in the schedule. If -- and I think this goes --  
20      if it's August, if it's September, if it's October, what you're  
21      going to be doing is changing this very, very cooperative,  
22      productive process to one where everybody's got to rush to the  
23      Court if there is a five second delay in distributing a  
24      document and, I don't think that's helpful. I think this has  
25      actually been, for as long as I've been in this case at least,

1 the most cooperative point in LBI's history between the various  
2 LIB -- Lehman estates, so I would hate to see a wedge sort of  
3 forced in here unnecessarily.

4 Again, if there is a valid reason why this has to  
5 take place other than it's better for it to be done than not  
6 done, then so be it, but we haven't heard -- heard a response  
7 that we're convinced of and we -- I know there is a lot of  
8 small creditors here and we hope that they can be taken care of  
9 in a robust interim distribution. The large creditors are not  
10 sold that this needs to take place at this time.

11 THE COURT: Thank you.

12 Okay, this is a problem that's difficult to resolve  
13 in this setting. I think a chambers' conference may be in  
14 order and I'm going to propose that the principal players --  
15 and for these purposes, I'm going to let the principal players  
16 identify themselves -- and that would be the Trustee, LIBIE,  
17 the Lehman estates plus, to the extent there are any active  
18 litigants in this process -- some others -- through counsel to  
19 come up with some dates over the next several weeks. One, we  
20 can get together and have a "sleeves-rolled-up" session to  
21 discuss some of the things we've talked about at least,  
22 preliminarily today -- were things that makes this somewhat  
23 unusual for me in terms of a scheduling decision is that I have  
24 a Trustee who has fiduciary duties to customers plus I have  
25 customers and they are not seeing eye to eye as to what is in

1 the best interest of the customers. That's a conundrum and I  
2 don't have a record on the basis of which to determine whose  
3 assessment of this murky reality is correct. I'm not sure I am  
4 going to have any better sense of that in the context of a  
5 chambers' conference but it may be that we can talk somewhat  
6 more creatively about the problem. We can talk about dates  
7 that actually do make sense to the extent that August does not  
8 make sense. We can consider whether holding the August date  
9 for some purpose may be sensible, and we can also consider  
10 whether the suggestion I've made about the possible value of a  
11 court expert actually makes sense in the context of the dispute  
12 and just because I've said it doesn't mean I have a considered  
13 view on that subject. It was just a point for consideration.

14 Let me have some ideas from you as to what's most  
15 convenient over the next several weeks and we'll try to set  
16 something up and you can coordinate with a chambers' staff.

17 MR. GRAULICH: Your Honor, just -- Timothy Graulich  
18 for the record -- just a thought, I don't know that I've spoken  
19 with anybody about this, because we just -- we were discussing  
20 just this morning the possibility of a chambers' conference, I  
21 just throw it out as a possibility and we can speak amongst  
22 ourselves as to whether or not it may be helpful to Your Honor,  
23 for folks to maybe submit a letter in advance of the chambers'  
24 conference sort of laying out some of these issues, just so  
25 there is something in writing for Your Honor to consider --

1 THE COURT: Having such and foremost admissions as  
2 the parties think would be useful in making the session more  
3 productive would be welcome.

4 MR. GRAULICH: -- Okay. Maybe, it may not be a great  
5 idea or it may be a great idea, but we'll discuss it.

6 THE COURT: It's just more work for you.

7 MR. GRAULICH: More work for Mr. Millerman.

8 THE COURT: Okay, we'll -- fine. It's more work for  
9 somebody. I'll see you next time. Thank you.

10

11 (Whereupon these proceedings were concluded at 10:51 AM)

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Petra Garthwait, certify that the foregoing transcript is a  
true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Petra

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